

Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies

<http://journals.cambridge.org/BSO>

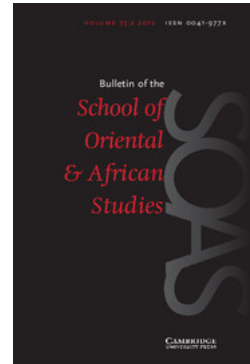
Additional services for *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*:

Email alerts: [Click here](#)

Subscriptions: [Click here](#)

Commercial reprints: [Click here](#)

Terms of use : [Click here](#)



An Incomplete Copy of a *Sūtra* Incorporated in the Peking Print of the Tibetan Kanjur

Walter Simon

Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies / Volume 35 / Issue 02 / June 1972, pp 334 - 337

DOI: 10.1017/S0041977X00109395, Published online: 24 December 2009

Link to this article: http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0041977X00109395

How to cite this article:

Walter Simon (1972). An Incomplete Copy of a *Sūtra* Incorporated in the Peking Print of the Tibetan Kanjur. Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies, 35, pp 334-337 doi:10.1017/S0041977X00109395

Request Permissions : [Click here](#)

NOTES AND COMMUNICATIONS

AN INCOMPLETE COPY OF A *SŪTRA* INCORPORATED IN THE PEKING PRINT OF THE TIBETAN KANJUR

It is exactly 40 years ago that the Otani University, Kyoto, published its *Comparative analytical catalogue of the Kanjur division of the Tibetan Tripitaka, edited in Peking during the K'ang-hsi era*,¹ this Kanjur division, together with the Tanjur division, being now available in reduced size as the *Tibetan Tripitaka, Peking edition*, edited by Daisetz T. Suzuki.² Ever since that time it would have been possible to state that the Tibetan version of the *Amoghapāśa-kalparāja* (No. 365) has been listed as numbering 24 chapters (*bam-po*) as opposed to the 25 chapters of the Derge print, set out by the compiler on the same pages, together with references to the Chinese version (in vol. xx of the *Taishō Tripitaka*). It is easy to ascertain that the Narthang print (as well as the manuscript copy³ of the British Museum) also have 25 chapters. On the other hand the Cone print, though numbers of chapters are not indicated in Mibu's *Comparative list*,⁴ and the Mongolian Kanjur, as is evident from Professor Ligeti's catalogue,⁵ have only 24 chapters.

The missing of a final chapter may be attributed to a regrettable oversight on the part of the editors of the Peking Kanjur, but an examination of the various Tibetan prints of the *sūtra* clearly shows that there are various other gaps to be found in the Peking print (as well as in the Cone print and in the Mongolian Kanjur). When compared with the Narthang print it appears that, apart from the missing final chapter, as many as about 140 further pages are involved. As the appended tables will show, the gaps are identical and all occur in the second half of the translation of the *sūtra*. Moreover the gaps are to be observed either at the beginning or at the end of a chapter, circumstances which justify the conclusion that in each case a number of pages were missing when the blocks were cut for the Peking Kanjur. The fact that in the case of chapter xii the truncated chapter starts with the words 'the earth *also* began to shake' (*sa yañ g'yo-bar hgyur-ro*) has unfortunately not succeeded in arousing the suspicion of the editors of the Peking and Cone prints, nor

¹ Compiled by Bunkyo Sakurabe. Otani Daigaku Library, Kyoto, 1930-2. Vol. 1, Pt. 1 of the *Catalogue of the Tanjur division* was published in 1965 (180 pp.).

² Published by the Tibetan Tripitaka Research Institute, Tokyo and Kyoto, 1959-61. 168 vols.

³ See E. D. Grinstead, 'The manuscript Kanjur in the British Museum', *Asia Major*, NS, XIII, 1-2, 1967, 48-70.

⁴ Mibu Taishun, *A comparative list of the Bksh-hgyur division in the Co-ne, Peking, Sde-dge and Snar-thañ editions*, Tokyo, 1959, p. 14, No. 370. I am greatly indebted to the liberality of Professor K. Enoki and the kindness of Mr. R. Kaneko who enabled me to study these four Kanjur prints side by side in the rooms of Toyo Bunko. I wish to thank also Miss S. Nihei for having provided further information on the Cone Kanjur after my departure from Japan.

⁵ L. Ligeti, *Catalogue du Kanjur mongol imprimé*, I, Budapest, 1942, No. 370 (p. 93).

that of the translators dealing with the Mongolian version. The identity of the gaps in the Peking and Cone prints would seem of importance when attempting to ascertain the relation between these two prints.⁶

It may be assumed that the gaps represent an isolated case within the Peking print of the Tibetan Kanjur and therefore do not affect adversely the desirability of basing future lexicographical research⁷ on the Tibetan *Tripitaka*, which has reproduced this print.

Table I (chapter xii)

(Gap amounting to 37 pp. of the corresponding passage in the Narthang print)

	Narthang	Derge	Peking	Cone
Beginning (<i>bCom-ldan h̄das h̄on kyañ . . .</i>)	194A ⁶	124A ³	missing	missing
Pseudo-beginning (<i>Sa yañ g'yo-bar h̄gyur-ro</i>) *	[213B ²]	[136A ³]	120B ¹ (= <i>Ti. T</i> , VIII, 50c ¹)	139A ⁷
End	232B ⁶	148A ⁶	130B ⁴ (= <i>Ti. T</i> , VIII, 55b ⁴)	153A ⁷

* Mongolian version: *oron ber kōdōlkūi boluyu* (147B²⁶).

⁶ See in particular, C. Vogel (ed. and tr.), *The teachings of the six heretics*, Wiesbaden, 1970, pp. 8–9.

⁷ See 'Tibetan lexicography and etymological research', *Transactions of the Philological Society*, 1964, [pub.] 1965, 100–1.

Table II (chapter xiv)

(Gap amounting to 35 pp. of the corresponding passage in the Narthang print)

	Narthang	Derge	Peking	Cone
Beginning	252B ²	161A ¹	141B ⁶ (= <i>Ti. T.</i> VIII, 58e ⁶)	165A ¹
End	287A ⁵	182B ⁷	missing	missing
Pseudo-ending (<i>dri sna-ts'ogs dan byug-pas dñul-gyi snod bkañ-ste bñag-par byaho</i>) *	[270A ²]	[172A ⁶]	151B ⁷ (= <i>Ti. T.</i> VIII, 62e ⁷)	177B ⁶

* Mongolian version : *eldeb ünür kiged sürčig iyer mōnggūn* (31) *saba-i dūgūrgeṅ aṅuldaqui bolai* (184A³⁰⁻³¹).

Table III (chapter xvi)

(Gap amounting to 35 pp. of the corresponding passage in the Narthang print)

	Narthang	Derge	Peking	Cone
Beginning (<i>de-nas sbyin-sreg</i>)	302B ⁴	194B ¹	missing	missing
Pseudo-beginning (<i>p'yag-rgya gsum ni rnam sprul-pa</i>) *	[320A ⁷]	[207B ¹]	162A ⁵ (= <i>Ti. T.</i> VIII, 67a ⁵)	91A ⁵
End	335A ²	218A ⁷	172B ² (= <i>Ti. T.</i> VIII, 71b ²)	204B ²

* Mongolian version : *γurban mutur-i tein böged qubilγayči* . . . (197B²⁷).

Table IV (chapter xvii)

(Gap amounting to 32 pp. of the corresponding passage in the Narthang print)

	Narthang	Derge	Peking	Cone
Beginning (<i>De-nas rtag-tu bzlas-pahi dkyil-hk'or-gyi c'o-ga</i>)	335A ³	218A ⁸	missing	missing
Pseudo-beginning (<i>dkyil-hk'or bsad-par bya-ste</i>) *	[351B ³]	[230A ⁴]	172B ² (= <i>Ti. T.</i> VIII, 71b ²)	204B ²
End	366B ⁵	240A ²	182B ¹ (= <i>Ti. T.</i> VIII, 75b ¹)	216B ⁵

* Mongolian version: *mandal-i nomlasuyai*... (211B²⁷).

WALTER SIMON